

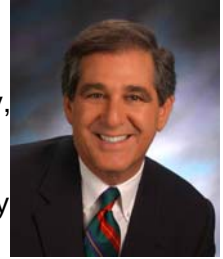
# Louisville Metro Public Works

## 2005 Annual Report

*Mission: To preserve and enhance the roadway infrastructure for the public's safety and travel*

### Message from the Mayor

Louisville Metro Government is working harder than ever to improve our community, to be more efficient and responsive, and to better connect local government to our citizens. The Metro Public Works Department touches our community in many ways and is a major part of our ongoing commitment to increasing both the safety and quality of life of our citizens.



From our downtown core to our suburban neighborhoods, Public Works employees are responsible for maintaining 3,000 miles of roadways. Their work includes bridge repair and replacement, clearing snow and ice, installing and maintaining traffic lights and signals and responding quickly to more than 20,000 potholes each year.

We are constantly striving to provide more efficient and responsive service. That's why – in advance of the 2005-06 winter season – we worked to develop and fully communicate a much-improved snow and ice removal plan. We implemented an online mapping tool that allows citizens to view snow removal routes and track the progress of our crews throughout the Louisville area. This new feature is available 24/7 on our new and improved city website: [www.louisvilleky.gov](http://www.louisvilleky.gov).

Working together – we can build on the successes we celebrated in 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry E. Abramson".

*Jerry E. Abramson, Mayor*

### Message from the Director

It has been another productive year for the Louisville Metro Public Works Department. I would like to thank all of our employees for their outstanding work and contributions in 2005. We accomplished a great deal, and I value your commitment and dedication in keeping our roads safe for all citizens.

Our year got off to a busy start. During the winter, our snow removal team responded to snow events on 24 days.

During the summer, our Traffic Operations Section coordinated the conversion of approximately 230 city traffic signals to LED (light-emitting diodes) signals. The department realized a decrease in energy costs, and the metro-wide retrofit of remaining incandescent traffic signals is expected to save 7.5 million KWH and \$250,000 each year.

The Engineering Division managed the completion of five new bridge replacement projects – Fern Creek Road, Gentry Lane, Hobbs Lane, Payne Street and Schuff Lane. Our crews paved approximately 160 lane miles and repaired 25,278 linear feet of sidewalks in Louisville.

The Operations and Maintenance Division completed several road maintenance projects including: replaced cross drains, built road shoulders and elevated Hitt Road; widened the radius on Crittenden Drive at Grade Lane; reworked the turn radius and islands at Zorn Avenue at I-71; and widened 3,800 linear feet of Old Heady Road. Crews also started the construction of a new salt storage facility on Lexington Road.

In preparation for the 2005-06 snow season, the Geographic Information System (GIS) Section was instrumental in the development of an online mapping tool to track snow removal progress. Citizens may view the snow removal process online as it is completed. This information and other snow removal data can be accessed at [www.louisvilleky.gov/PublicWorks/snowremovalcenter.htm](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/PublicWorks/snowremovalcenter.htm).

The Public Works Department continues its commitment to public safety by enhancing roadway infrastructure. We look forward to providing excellent customer service by continually improving the quality of our local streets and roads.

*James C. Adkins, Director*

## Engineering

The Engineering Division manages all of the Public Works capital projects. Capital projects vary in range from bridge replacements and road widening to new sidewalks and handicap ramps.

In 2005, the Engineering Division completed five bridge replacements including: Fern Creek Road, Gentry Lane, Hobbs Lane, Payne Street and Schuff Lane. They also finished road widening projects on Gelhaus Lane, Schaeffer Lane and Waterford Road.

The Engineering Division also oversees the paving program, construction plan review and encroachment permits.

### Accomplishments

#### **Capital Projects**

Paving - 160 lane miles  
Sidewalk Repair - 28,608 linear feet  
New Sidewalks - 7,390 linear feet  
Handicap Ramps Installed - 410  
Alleys Resurfaced - 23  
Permit Inspections - 4,150  
Subdivision Inspections - 175

#### **Construction Plan Review and Permits**

Development Plans Approved - 4,661  
Permits Issued - 2,763  
License Agreements Issued - 24  
Encroachment Bonds Received - 259  
Subdivision Bonds Received - 76  
Sidewalk Fee in Lieu Received - \$88,858



**Hobbs Lane Bridge**

## Planning

This division is comprised of the County Engineer, Traffic Operations, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). In 2005, Traffic Operations was particularly busy with its LED (light-emitting diodes) traffic signal project conversion. The LED initiative offers numerous benefits including: a reduction in emissions, an increase in energy efficiency and improved public safety.

GIS develops applications for the city's mapping needs and maintains the street centerline file and right-of-way information in LOJIC. GIS rolled out a new online mapping tool to track snow removal progress. During major snow storms, GIS displays the snow removal information for residents at [www.louisvilleky.gov](http://www.louisvilleky.gov).

### Accomplishments

#### **Traffic Operations**

Civil Defense Sirens Re-built - 6  
Traffic Signal Responses - 4,118  
State Intersection Loop Replacement - 288  
School Signal Maintenance/Repair - 146  
Streetlight Maintenance/Repair - 186  
Stop Sign Maintenance - 543  
New Signs - 1,101  
Pavement Markings - 602 miles  
Stop Sign Requests Evaluated - 130  
Street Name Signs Installed/Repaired -

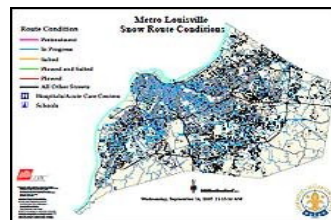
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#### **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**

Alley and Street Closings - 15  
Alley & Street Name Changes - 12  
GIS Maps - 2,220  
Right-of-Way Inquiries - 276  
Street Centerline Segments - 5,512  
Snow Routes Modified/Updated - 92  
2005-06 Snow Books Created - 46  
Snow Route Viewer on LOJIC's Website  
Street Clearing Status on LouisvilleKy.gov



**New LED traffic signal at Taylor Blvd.**



**Snow removal tracking map**

## Administrative Services

The Administrative Services Division provides administrative, employee relations, financial and customer service support for the Public Works Department.

In fiscal year 2006, the Public Works Department had an operating budget of \$23,272,900, a capital budget of \$10,006,200 and 242 employees.

### Accomplishments

Completed FY 05-06 budget

Managed 66 contracts and 17 professional service contracts

Managed records for more than one trillion dollars in fixed assets

Resolved 19,930 service requests



**Stella Irvin enters customer service information.**

## Impound Lot

The Vehicle Impoundment Division is responsible for towing and securing vehicles until they are released. The division, located at 1487 Frankfort Avenue, maintains storage of vehicles that are towed for investigations, accidents, arrests, parking violations and stolen recoveries.

Abandoned vehicles are towed from public and private property. During this period, 3,098 unclaimed vehicles were sold at public auction primarily for their salvage and parts value.

### Accomplishments

Arrests & Investigations Towed - 2,414

Abandoned Vehicles Towed - 1,396

Accidents/Hit & Run Vehicles Towed - 1,260

Parking Violation Vehicles Towed - 5,090

Contractor Tows Received - 470

Stolen Vehicles Recovered - 991

IPL Tows - 308

Clear the Streets - 2,950

Service Runs on Metro Equipment - 914



**Buddy Burden tows an illegally parked vehicle.**

## Operations & Maintenance

Operations and Maintenance delivers a wide variety of services relating to the existing infrastructure of public roadways, right-of-ways, and government and private properties. The Operations Division is comprised of five Road Maintenance Units, one Vacant Lots Unit, and the Metro Arborist Program. There are 132 full-time employees in the Operations Division.

Public Works is the lead agency for all Louisville snow removal operations. The Operations Division coordinates with Metro Solid Waste Management Systems, Metro Parks, and the Metropolitan Sewer District to provide direction for scheduling crews and chemical treatment application rates for every snow event.

The Roads Division is responsible for maintaining more than 2,000 miles of roadways and all drainage facilities within the right-of-way (outside the Metropolitan Sewer District service area). The division's projects include: road shoulder improvements, right-of-way mowing and guardrail installation and maintenance. Crews also perform all storm damage clean up, such as snow removal and the clearance of downed trees and flood debris within the road right-of-way.



This year Public Works has implemented several new programs directly related to snow removal. This division began utilizing a salt brining operation to pre-treat roads in advance of incoming storms. This proactive approach prevents ice and snow from bonding to the pavement and provides an additional tool to battle snow and ice. Brining is a blended salt water mix that is applied by truck-mounted distributors and is an economical and effective means for pretreatment. Public Works Operations has also utilized the snow fleet tracking system as a management tool during snow events.

A new salt storage facility is under construction at the Urban Roads District on Lexington Road. Public Works employees from the Special Construction Unit poured the foundation and 8-foot-high walls. The enclosure is scheduled to be completed by a private contractor. This new facility will store an additional 1,200 tons of road salt and will serve as a valuable addition for regional loading and snow route distribution.



**Salt storage building at Lexington Road**

The Vacant Lots Division is responsible for mowing, cleaning and boarding as many as 1,500 properties that are being restored to productive use. This unit also cleans private properties that are a public nuisance and have undergone the Inspections Permits and Licenses legal process.

The Metro Arborist is assigned to the Operations Unit of Public Works. The Arborist oversees street tree planting programs and reviews right-of-way tree permit requests from property owners. The Arborist evaluates and inspects existing trees that may be dead or dangerous and notifies owners for remediation. The arborist coordinates with internal road districts and contractors to assist with tree-related issues and clean-up operations.

### **Accomplishments**

Bridges Repaired - 4  
 Culvert Installations - 487 linear ft  
 Cross Drains Installed - 281 linear ft  
 Curbs Repaired - 559  
 Fire Hydrant Inspections - 6,045  
 Headwalls/Catch Basins Constructed - 22  
 Guardrails Installed - 2,884 linear ft  
 Potholes Repaired - 28,965  
 Recycling Programs - 9,667 citizens served  
 Right-of-Way Obstructions Removed - 572  
 Right-of-Way Mowing/Trimming - 1,678 miles  
 Shoulder Improvements - 35,027 linear feet  
 Sidewalks Repaired - 2,471 linear feet  
 Snow Removal - 13,986 tons of salt and 8,900 gallons of calcium chloride  
 Storm Damage Clean-up - 16,253 employee hours

Tree Trimming - 5,700 employee hours  
 Trees Removed - 455  
 Trees Planted - 771  
 Vacant Lots Cut/Cleaned - 6,010  
 Structures Boarded - 977



**Vacant Lots cleanup project**



**Lotus Ave. pavement repairs**



**River Road shoulder repair**

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